

Docket No. 211110US0DIV



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

YASUHIRO MIHARA ET AL

: EXAMINER: NGUYEN, QUANG

SERIAL NO. : 09/902,693

FILED: JULY 12, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1636

FOR: NOVEL MICROORGANISMS :
AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING
XYLITOL OR D-XYLULOSE

RECEIVED
MAR 27 2003
TECHNICAL STAFF

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated October 19, 2002, and in conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination submitted herewith, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 16 and 21.

Please amend the claims as follows. For convenience, all of the pending claims are reproduced below.